

EL FARO

PUERTORICAN EDUCATORS NEWSLETTER

President's

Report

As a member of PNEA for the last 4 years, I have watched the organization grow and weather some very difficult times. I would like to provide leadership that would help PNEA continue on its path to financial solvency by aggressively pursuing partnerships and support from the corporate sector.

My goals will include: 1) increasing collegial membership support for the organization; 2) working closely with the membership to develop policies and strategies that will help us prepare our children for success in the 21st Century; 3) facilitate networking among members; 4) educate for bilingual/multicultural education for all students; and 5) continue the vigorous campaign against the "English Only" movement.

I believe that with a strong Executive Board and support from the membership PNEA can impact the educational lives of children and adults in a positive manner.

BOARD

Janette Catón-Jorge.....President
José E. Velázquez.....Vice-President
Pedro Sierra.....Treasurer
Sandra Green.....Recording Secretary
Gilberto Catón.....Correspondence Sec.

STUDENT MEMBERS

Francois Trizberg
Luis Mario Rivera
Gloria Teodoro-Guqueriza
Mario D. Rodríguez
Ines Guerrero
Pd. Ivette Abreu



DONATE A TOY
BRING JOY TO A CHILD
ON THREE KINGS ' DAY
CALL
PUERTO RICAN EDUCATORS
ASSOCIATION OF N.J.
450-9252



and hearts and extend our hands to welcome all Puerto Rican educators to become active members of this statewide organization. Let's put our own agendas aside and join our President, José Colon-Jorge, a fine educator, to build a solid, better, enthusiastic and influential organization for our most precious legacy, our children.

Benigno Santiago,
Principal
Franklin St. School

STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST

Essay Topic

"As America prepares to celebrate 500 years since its 'discovery,' where are we as Puerto Rican youth headed toward in the 21st Century."

The essay may cover any facet of Puerto Rican life and must be at least 400 words in length.

Prizes: 1st Place - \$200
2nd Place - \$100

Deadline for submission:
April 4, 1991

Notification: All students who participate in the essay contest should be present at the May 1991 Educators Conference.

SE PUEDE

A COLUMN DEDICATED TO
NETWORKING

1. Iris Martinez-Arango - recently elected Vice-President of Congreso Boricua and also appointed by Mayor Sharpe James to the Mayor's Task Force for the Performing Arts Center.

2. Luis Lopez - Promoted to Principal of Broadway J.H.S. in Newark.

3. Janette Colon-Jorge - appointed by Commissioner Ellis to the State Advisory Board of Bilingual Education.

4. Eva Ortiz - appointed Director of Academics at the Central Cluster Program of the Newark Board of Education.

5. Ivan Torres - promoted to Coordinator for the Newark Board of Education's Computer Division.

Recently appointed to a new board or commission, received a promotion or award? Let's network by sending an announcement to the Editor of El Faro, P.O. Box 9257, Newark, N.J. 07104

**PREA TOY DROP MEMBERSHIP
MEETING**
DECEMBER 8, 1990
1:00 p.m.
Franklin St. School,
42 Park Ave.

**PREA TO SPONSOR TOYS
FOR THE NEEDY**

The Puerto Rican Educator's Association of New Jersey is requesting your support in order to have a successful toy drive. All toys collected will be donated to the needy children and distributed on January 6, 1991 at Three Kings Day Cultural Event to be held at F.O.C.U.S. Inc. (a multi-purpose community organization in Newark).

We implore you to take an active role to promote cultural awareness by making this event a memorable one. In order to coordinate toy collection, we will call you during the week of December 3, 1990. Toys are due by December 31st.

For pickup, call 450-9252

**PREA NEEDS US!
WE NEED PREA!**

When I was invited to write an article for the PREA newsletter, El Faro, I have to honestly confess that I was kind of nervous. After reflecting upon our goals and objectives as an organization, I felt more relaxed and ready to do my best.

We should always keep in mind that as educators our mission is a sacred one. It is demanding and full of sacrifice, but at the same time, it is as important, vital and rewarding profession. As teachers, we have an important role in local and national accomplishments. Our contributions are essential to the reaching of goals and ideals in our world. We the educators, leaders of society, must prepare our youngsters to face tomorrow's challenges. The future is in our hands and we hope to make it possible for our students to be ready for the challenge. We have to do this together!

We are in the excellent position of providing our children with knowledge and skills, as well as molding their character. We have to help them become useful members of society, develop an appreciation of their cultural heritage and live more satisfying lives.

Although it sounds simple to do, it is not an easy task. As a matter of fact, it is one of the most difficult tasks a human being can undertake. Thank God we have voluntarily decided to dedicate our lives to prepare children to face tomorrow's challenges.

I urge you to keep in mind that we cannot do it alone. We need PREA the same way PREA needs us. Let's open our minds